



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative David Cook (R-8)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Representative David Cook Defends Pinal County Agriculture Producers from Burdensome EPA Standards

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Representative David Cook (R-8) recently met with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to defend Pinal County agriculture producers from the agency's ill-suited PM₁₀ emissions and monitoring standards for the state. PM₁₀ is particulate matter with inhalable particles, with diameters that are generally 10 micrometers and smaller.

The EPA currently places severe PM₁₀ on Arizona. At considerable cost, Arizona agricultural producers and other stakeholders have put forth a concerted and earnest effort to meet the standards.

Both in the meeting with the EPA and in a subsequent letter, Representative Cook made the case that current standards are incompatible with Arizona's environment. **"The difficulty we face in meeting such standards mainly arise from natural conditions,"** Cook wrote. **"Arizona naturally has extremely dry desert conditions, and current EPA interpretations ignore this natural aspect."**

"Agricultural producers in Arizona have spent thousands of hours and millions of dollars to comply with the best management practices and emission reduction programs in our state. We will continue to do so and just ask that the EPA respect our local knowledge, conditions, and efforts to meet these stringent and complex environmental standards," said Cook.

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